

### *Stagg and Commodore teams place first at the Northern California MESA National Engineering Design Competition, Wind Energy Challenge*

*April 27, 2010*

Stockton, CA – Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) today recognized students at Stagg High School and Commodore Middle School for their first place wins at the Northern California MESA National Engineering Design Competition, Wind Energy Challenge.

The MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) program, headquartered locally at the University of the Pacific, helps middle and high school students to prepare for college studies in engineering, the sciences, computer science, and mathematics. Pacific's MESA school program serves one thousand 4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students per year.

Congressman McNerney, a former wind energy engineer, visited Stagg High School earlier this month to provide encouragement to the teams in advance of the competition. To read more about the Congressman's visit to Stagg High School, click [here](#).

"I'm thrilled to congratulate the teams at Stagg High School and Commodore Middle School for their first place wins at the Northern California MESA Competition in the Wind Energy Challenge," said Rep. McNerney. "These students should be very proud of their achievement and deserve recognition for their hard work. I wish both teams success at the state-wide competition and am glad that our community will be so well-represented by these innovative and committed students."

For the competition, the teams designed and built a windmill device from simple, household materials to capture and use wind energy. To demonstrate the effectiveness of their projects, the teams submitted each to a series of tests, such as using the energy generated by the windmills to raise weight. The teams also completed a technical paper and academic display and presented their devices to a panel of judges.

Both teams will next compete at the state-wide MESA competition in Santa Barbara in May.